

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 W
----- 080687

R 302001Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4169
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 9246

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, KS, KN, VE

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S JULY 22 SPEECH ON KOREA - VENEZUELA

REF: STATE 184201

1. EMBOFF BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF SR. GONZALO SANCHEZ, UN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL IN FOREIGN MINISTRY, SECRETARY KISSINGER'S JULY 22 SPEECH WHICH CONTAINED REITERATION OF PROPOSAL CALLING FOR A CONFERENCE TO REDUCE TENSIONS IN KOREAN PENINSULA, AND MADE POINTS ON KOREAN SECTION CONTAINED REFTTEL.

2. SANCHEZ NOTED THAT WHILE GOV WOULD LIKE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO U.S. ON THIS ITEM VENEZUELA HAS VIRTUALLY NO TIES TO, NOR LEVERAGE OVER NORTH KOREA. HE ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SOME TIME AGO, GOV HAS NO INTENTION OF OPENING OFFICES (EITHER COMMERCIAL OR DIPLOMATIC) IN NORTH KOREA, AND HAS ALSO BEEN RESISTING NORTH KOREAN EFFORTS TO OPEN A COMMERCIAL OFFICE HERE.

3. COMMENT: SANCHEZ TOOK CAREFUL NOTES DURING DISCUSSION, PARTICULARLY ON POINT ABOUT U.S. BEING WILLING TO TERMINATE UN COMMAND IF NEW SUITABLE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE. WE ACCEPT
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SANCHEZ'S STATEMENT THAT GOV HAS LITTLE MEANS OF INFLUENCING

NORTH KOREANS, EVEN IF IT WERE WILLING TO DO. MOREOVER, BECAUSE
OF ITS USUAL THIRD WORLD STANCE, WE DOUBT THAT GOV WOULD BE
WILLING TO TAKE THE LEAD ON PUSHING THIS PROPOSAL IN ANY
CASE. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE PROPOSAL WERE TO GAIN SUBSTANTIAL
SUPPORT, WE BELIEVE THAT VENEZUELA WOULD PROBABLY SUPPORT SUCH
AN ENDEAVOR WITHIN UN COUNCILS.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976CARACA09246
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760295-1265
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976076/aaaaaepo.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 184201
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S JULY 22 SPEECH ON KOREA - VENEZUELA
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, VE, US, UN, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006